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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

Docket Number: 0336FV-44008

**MARK R. SCHROEDER**

Serial No.: **Unknown**

Anticipated Group Art No.: 3764

Filed: **Herewith**

Examiner: **KIM M. LEE**

For: **ASSEMBLY FOR DISPENSING  
PACKAGED ADHESIVE-SIDED ARTICLES**

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

The Honorable Commissioner  
of Patents and Trademarks  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In the captioned application filed herewith, please amend the application, as follows:

**Abstract of the Disclosure**

Please delete the entire original Abstract and replace it with the enclosed substitute Abstract.

**In The Claims:**

Cancel claims 35-40, and add the following new claims:

- 41. A packaged article for one-handed application, comprising  
an adhesive-sided article having top and bottom surfaces and an adhesive disposed on at  
least a portion of said bottom surface,  
a bottom backing sheet having a top surface larger than said adhesive-sided article and a  
cohesive disposed on said top surface,

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a release layer at least as large as the adhesive of said adhesive-sided article, said release layer comprising a non-sticking substance disposed on said top surface of said bottom backing sheet,

a top support sheet having a bottom surface larger than said adhesive-sided article and a cohesive disposed on said bottom surface,

an adhesive layer for attaching to a portion of one end of said top surface of said adhesive-sided article and to a portion of said bottom surface of said top support sheet,

said bottom surface of said top support sheet enclosing said adhesive-sided article by adhering to that portion of said bottom backing sheet that is larger than said release layer so that said bottom backing sheet and release layer are removed together to expose said bottom surface of said adhesive-sided article for application to a receiving surface after which said top support sheet is removed from said adhesive-sided article.--

--42. A packaged article in accordance with claim 41, wherein said non-sticking substance of said release layer is silicone.--

--43. A packaged article in accordance with claim 41, wherein said release layer is centrally disposed on said bottom backing sheet.--

--44. A packaged article in accordance with claim 41, wherein said adhesive-sided article is a bandage having a bandage backing and a sterile pad adhesively attached to a portion thereof.--

--45. The packaged article in accordance with claim 44, further comprising a biochemically active material.--

--46. The packaged article in accordance with claim 45, wherein said biochemically active material is disposed within said pad.--

--47. The packaged article in accordance with claim 45, wherein said biochemically active material is disposed on said pad.--

--48. The packaged article in accordance with claim 45, wherein said biochemically active material is nicotine.--

--49. The packaged article in accordance with claim 45, wherein said biochemically active material is nitroglycerine.--

--50. A packaged article for one-handed application, comprising:

first and second adhesive-sided articles, each having top and bottom surfaces and an adhesive disposed on at least a portion of said bottom surface,

a first backing sheet having a top surface and a bottom surface, wherein each of said surfaces is larger than said adhesive-sided articles and each of said surfaces is provided with a cohesive disposed thereon,

a first release layer at least as large as the adhesive of said adhesive-sided articles, said first release layer comprising a non-sticking substance and said first release layer disposed on said top surface of said first backing sheet,

a second backing sheet having a top surface and a bottom surface, wherein said bottom surface is larger than said adhesive-sided articles and said bottom surface is provided with a cohesive disposed thereon,

a first adhesive layer for attaching to a portion of one end of said top surface of said first adhesive-sided article to a portion of said bottom surface of said second backing sheet,

a third backing sheet having a top surface and a bottom surface, wherein said top surface is larger than said adhesive-sided articles and said top surface is provided with a cohesive disposed thereon,

a second release layer at least as large as the adhesive of said adhesive-sided articles, said second release layer comprising a non-sticking substance and said second release layer disposed on said top surface of said third backing sheet,

a second adhesive layer for attaching to a portion of one end of said top surface of said second adhesive-sided article to a portion of said bottom surface of said first backing sheet,

wherein said bottom surface of said second backing sheet encloses said first adhesive-sided article by adhering to the top surface of said first backing sheet that is larger than said first release layer and wherein said bottom surface of said first backing sheet encloses said second adhesive-sided article by adhering to the top surface of said third backing sheet that is larger than said second release layer, such that separation of a backing sheet and release layer together from the bottom of the backing sheet to which they are attached exposes said bottom surface of an adhesive-sided article for application to a receiving surface, after which the bottom of the backing sheet carrying the exposed adhesive-sided article is removed from said adhesive-sided article.--

--51. A packaged article in accordance with claim 50, further comprising a plurality of backing sheets and adhesive-sided articles, wherein said backing sheets are attached to one another in a stacked relationship and an adhesive-sided article is disposed between adjacent backing sheets.--

--52. A packaged article in accordance with claim 50, further comprising:

a plurality of said packaged adhesive-sided articles, wherein said support sheets for said packaged articles includes an extension tab and an extended anchoring portion;  
and

a fastener securing said anchoring portions of said backing sheets together, wherein said fastener does not secure said extension tabs.--

--53. A packaged article in accordance with claim 52, further comprising a reclosable cover at least partially enclosing said packaged articles, wherein said fastener secures said reclosable cover to said extended anchoring portions of said backing sheets.--

--54. The packaged article in accordance with claim 50, wherein at least one of said release layers further comprises a release sheet, wherein said non-sticking substance is disposed on said release sheet which is adhered to said top surface of said backing sheet.--

--55. The packaged article in accordance with claim 50, wherein said non-sticking substance of at least one of said release layers is applied directly to said backing sheet.--

--56. A packaged article in accordance with claim 50, wherein said non-sticking substance is silicone.--

--57. A packaged article in accordance with claim 50, wherein said adhesive-sided article is a bandage having a bandage backing and a sterile pad adhesively attached to a portion thereof.--

--58. The packaged article in accordance with claim 57, further comprising a biochemically active material.--

--59. The packaged article in accordance with claim 58, wherein said biochemically active material is disposed within said pad.--

--60. The packaged article in accordance with claim 58, wherein said biochemically active material is disposed on said pad.--

--61. The packaged article in accordance with claim 58, wherein said biochemically active material is nicotine.--

--62. The packaged article in accordance with claim 58, wherein said biochemically active material is nitroglycerine.--

--63. A packaged article in accordance with claim 41, wherein said adhesive layer is a double-sided tape having top and bottom surfaces and adhesive disposed on both said top surface and on said bottom surface.--

--64. A packaged article in accordance with claim 63, wherein the adhesive of said adhesive layer with the bottom surface of said top support sheet is stronger than the adhesive of said adhesive layer with the top surface of said adhesive-sided article.--

--65. A packaged article in accordance with claim 41, wherein said adhesive layer has a stronger bond with said top support sheet than the bond between said adhesive-sided article and said release layer.--

--66. The packaged article of claim 41 wherein at least a portion of said adhesive-sided article is transparent.--

--67. The packaged article of claim 41 wherein at least a portion of said adhesive-sided article is translucent.--

--68. A packaged article in accordance with claim 50, wherein said adhesive layer is a double-sided tape having top and bottom surfaces and adhesive disposed on both said top surface and on said bottom surface.--

--69. A packaged article in accordance with claim 68, wherein the adhesive of said adhesive layer with the bottom surface of said top support sheet is stronger than the adhesive of said adhesive layer with the top surface of said adhesive-sided article.--

--70. A packaged article in accordance with claim 50, wherein said adhesive layer has a stronger bond with said top support sheet than the bond between said adhesive-sided article and said release layer.--

--71. The packaged article of claim 50 wherein at least a portion of said adhesive-sided article is transparent.--

--72. The packaged article of claim 50 wherein at least a portion of said adhesive-sided article is translucent.--

--73. A packaged article in accordance with claim 41, wherein said cohesive is a bonding material that permits said bottom backing sheet and said top support sheet to be releasably attached to one another.--

--74. A packaged article in accordance with claim 73, wherein said bonding material is non-adhesive.--

--75. A packaged article in accordance with claim 73, wherein said bonding material need only be applied to either said bottom backing sheet or said top support sheet in order to permit said bottom backing sheet and said top support sheet to be releasably attached to one another.--

--76. A packaged article in accordance with claim 50, wherein said cohesive is a bonding material that permits said backing sheets to be releasably attached to one another.--

--77. A packaged article in accordance with claim 76, wherein said bonding material is non-adhesive.--

--78. A packaged article in accordance with claim 76, wherein said bonding material need only be applied to one surface of a backing sheet in order to permit adjacent backing sheets to be releasably attached to one another.--

**In The Specification:**

At Page 9, line 2, following the word "itself" delete ", or preferably it" and insert --. Such an embodiment simplifies manufacturing, reduces the overall package thickness and eliminates paper which in turn eliminates waste material. In another embodiment, the release layer--.

At Page 13, line 15, at the end of the paragraph insert --In this stacked formation, as best illustrated in Figs. 6 and 8, by utilizing the upper surface of a top cover sheet of an article as the bottom cover sheet for a successive article, the amount of packaging required for the overall assembly is reduced by approximately one-half, thereby simplifying manufacture of the packaging and reducing the amount of paper required for packaging.--

**REMARKS**

Claims 41-78 filed herewith are in the case.

In view of the art of record in Serial No. 09/589,386, which is incorporated by reference



as suitable material prior to be considered herein, it is respectfully submitted that the claims are allowable and should be passed to issue.

Respectfully submitted,



Mark A. Tidwell  
Registration No. 37,456

5-3-01

Date

BRACEWELL & PATTERSON, L.L.P.  
P. O. Box 61389  
Houston, Texas 77208-1389  
(713) 221-1529  
Attorney Docket No.: 0336FV-044008

In The Claims:

Cancel claims 1-34, and add the following new claims:

--36. An assembly apparatus for dispensing and applying adhesive-backed articles, comprising a plurality of respectively packaged articles to be singly dispensed, each of said packaged articles having

- an adhesive-sided article having top and bottom surfaces and an adhesive disposed on at least a portion of said bottom surface,
- a bottom backing sheet having a top surface larger than said adhesive-sided article and a cohesive disposed on said top surface,
- a release layer having top and bottom surfaces at least as large as said adhesive-sided article, a non-sticking substance disposed on said top surface, and an adhesive or cohesive disposed on said bottom surface for adhering said release layer to said bottom backing sheet,
- a top support sheet having a bottom surface larger than said adhesive-sided article and a cohesive disposed on said bottom surface,
- an adhesive layer for attaching to a portion of one end of said top surface of said adhesive-sided article and to a portion of said bottom surface of said top support sheet, said bottom surface of said top support sheet enclosing said adhesive-sided article by adhering to that portion of said bottom backing sheet that is larger than said release layer so that said bottom backing sheet and release layer are removed together to expose said bottom surface of said adhesive-sided article for application to a receiving surface after which said top support sheet is removed from said adhesive-sided article,
- each of said bottom backing sheets having an anchoring region, and
- an assembly holder attached to said anchoring region of each of said plurality of backing sheets.--

--37. An assembly apparatus in accordance with claim 36, and including at least one staple for attaching each of said anchoring regions to said assembly holder.--

--38. An assembly apparatus in accordance with claim 36, and including a mounting hole through said assembly holder and at least a portion of said anchoring region.--

--39. An assembly apparatus in accordance with claim 36, wherein said assembly holder

is a foldable reclosable cover for protecting said plurality of packaged articles.--

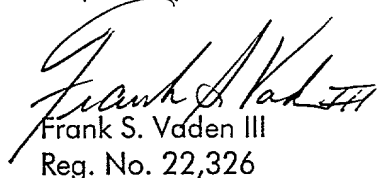
--40. An assembly apparatus in accordance with claim 36, wherein said assembly holder and backing sheets remaining after all of said adhesive-sided articles have been dispensed is disposable.--

REMARKS

Claim 35 of the original application and claims 36-40 filed herewith are in the case.

In view of the art of record in Serial No. 09/206,885, which is incorporated by reference as suitable material prior to be considered herein, it is respectfully submitted that the claims are allowable and should be passed to issue.

Respectfully submitted,

  
Frank S. Vaden III  
Reg. No. 22,326

ATTORNEY FOR APPLICANT

Date: June 7, 2000

FELSMAN, BRADLEY, VADEN, GUNTER & DILLON, L.L.P.  
One Riverway, Suite 1100  
Houston, Texas 77056-1982  
(713) 961-3525

### ABSTRACT

--A packaged article including an adhesive-sided article, such as an adhesive bandage, and packaging formed of top and bottom backing sheets with a release layer disposed either directly on the bottom backing sheet facing the adhesive side of the article or on release paper carried on said bottom backing sheet. The facing surfaces of the top backing sheet and bottom backing sheet peripherally surrounding the adhesive-sided article have cohesive surfaces. An adhesive strip, preferably a double-sided adhesive strip, attaches the non-adhesive side of the adhesive-sided article to the top backing sheet. The top sheet is used as an applicator for placing the article onto a target surface, such as a patient's skin. The cohesive surface of the top sheet surrounding the article does not adhere to the target surface. A release layer applied directly on the bottom backing sheet eliminates additional material and waste. In another embodiment, backing sheets are attached to one another in a stacked relationship with an adhesive-sided article disposed between adjacent backing sheets, such that the bottom of one backing sheet for an adhesive-sided article serves as the top of the adjacent backing sheet for a successive adhesive-sided article.--